GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3892
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2006
WELFARE OF SPORTS PERSONS
Prasad Shri Hari Kewal;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government for the welfare of sportspersons representing the country in the National Games;

(b) whether the Government provides assistance for the employment/self employment of these players;

(c) if so, the number of players so benefited during the last five years alongwith the details thereof;

(d) whether these benefits are being provided only to the outstanding players; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports is implementing the following schemes, for the welfare of sportspersons:

i) National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons:- The National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons and their families was set up primarily to assist outstanding sports persons of yesteryears, who are living in indigent circumstances. Financial support is given in the form of monthly pensions upto Rs. 2500/-.

Lump-sum financial assistance up to Rs. 40,000/- is also given for medical treatment in case of injury.

Sportspersons who suffer from fatal injury in the course of participation in sports events during training are also helped subject to maximum assistance of Rs. 1 lakh.

ii) Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons: - Under this scheme launched in 1994, life pension is given to sportspersons from the age of 30 years who are Indian citizens and have won medals in the Olympic Games, the World Cup/World Championships, the Asian Games, the Commonwealth Games and the Para-Olympic Games.

(b) to (e): Under the existing orders of the Government of India, issued by Department of Personnel and Training, Ministries/Departments of the Government of India can recruit meritorious sportspersons in any year in relaxation of the recruitment procedure to the extent that these, including all other reservations under existing orders, do not exceed 50% of the total number of vacancies proposed to be filled by direct recruitment in any Group C or D post. For the purpose of making appointment of meritorious sportspersons, the appointing authorities, may at their discretion, notify to the Staff Selection Commission in all cases where the recruitment to the posts have been entrusted to that Commission, vacancies reduced by upto 5% thereof and may fill such vacancies so held back by appointing meritorious sportspersons subject to the overall limitation of 50% mentioned above,

Sports being a State subject, it is for the individual State Governments to take policy decisions with regard to their jurisdiction. As such, this Ministry does not maintain a record of sportspersons employed with different employers.